



Water for Women WASH Research Awards Type 1 – Addendum 4

Note that questions on the Call for Proposals for the WASH Research Awards (Type 1) has been extended and will now close at 12.00 noon (Canberra time) on *Friday 14 December 2018*. A final Addendum (Number 5) will be released on Monday 17 December 2018.

Q1. Can a research proposal include the demonstration of WASH technology?

There are no specific restrictions on installation of demonstration technology as part of a research proposal. WASH Research Awards under the Type 1 category are aimed at supporting research into key knowledge gaps in the WASH sector. If the proposing organisation's understanding is that this topic represents a significant gap in current global and/or regional research, then the proposal should describe how the research will address this.

The Call for Proposals states that:

“WASH Research Awards grants cover the following eligible costs:

- a. the direct costs of research (researcher salary, fieldwork costs, travel, insurance)*
- b. communication and engagement*
- c. capacity building activities”*

Therefore, proposals will also need to demonstrate that the technology to be installed is directly linked to research results, and/or has a capacity building element.



Q2. Can the proposed research use observational intervention and baseline as opposed to end-line evaluation or a randomised control trial?

There are no particular research methodologies specified in the Call for Proposals. However, proposals should describe the methodology to be employed, and demonstrate that the research results can be achieved using the chosen methodology.

Q3. Can the proposal use the ethical clearance system of an Australian university (as a consortium member), and combine this with in-country approval mechanisms by partner governments?

The ethics approval process of the Australian university is likely to be acceptable. Applicants are reminded that in-country research will also need to obtain and/or otherwise meet all local approvals and requirements.

Q4: Can non-Australian organisations can apply for this proposal as the lead research organisation?

Lead organisations can be Australian or international non-profit organisations, which have research as a core function. The lead organisation does not have to be based in Australia. Further, researchers can be from any country or partner research organisation, provided the designated Principal Researcher is formally associated with the lead research organisation submitting the proposal.

Q5: For the required sanction checks, counter terrorism, police checks and fraud control, is it essential for us to have these checks completed prior to submission of the research proposal?

The Call for Proposal states that:

“The Lead Organisation must undertake, or arrange to have undertaken, sanction checks, counter terrorism checks police checks for itself, all consortia partners and all



personnel involved in Grant activities and confirm satisfactory completion in the table below”

Please note that all the required checks will need to be completed prior to the successful organisation entering into any contract with the Fund Coordinator. If the submitting organisation has started these checks, but not completed them, please note this and keep Water for Women updated as the proposal submission and selection process progresses.

Q6. Should the project budget include the costs of attending Water for Women Fund meetings/workshops?

Yes, the project budget should include costs of attendance for a representative of the research organisation at an orientation session and relevant Water for Women Fund Knowledge and Learning Events, as well as meetings of the Fund’s Research Group. Note that Research Group meetings will mostly be via teleconference or Skype.

Q7. If successfully selected, when is the research project expected to start?

Selection is scheduled to be completed by March 2019, and following contract negotiations, research organisations will be expected to start their projects by June 2019.

Q8. The SmartyGrants Form states that an authorised person from the applicant's organisation has to sign off the application electronically. Can the authorised person sign a hard copy and include that in the application?

Yes, a hard copy of the signature page can be uploaded as part of the documentation.

Q9. Where will the orientation session and Water for Women Fund Knowledge and Learning Events be held? How long will these meetings be?



The orientation session will probably take place in Melbourne, Australia. This will depend on how quickly contract negotiations with successful research organisations can be concluded, but in April or May 2019 is likely. The orientation session will be two days. Research organisations are expected to participate in at least one Knowledge and Learning Event per year for the two years of the project. Knowledge and Learning events are held regionally – i.e. one per year in each of South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, and each event will be around four days in duration.

Q10. Can the cost of computers be included in the budget?

Grants will only cover the following eligible costs: direct costs of research (researcher salary, fieldwork costs, travel, insurance); communication and engagement, and capacity building activities. If computers are purchased, the expense will have to be linked directly with one of these categories, justified in terms of meeting the research objectives, and be within reasonable limits.